

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
transmitting programs to two different receivers;
determining the time difference between a first program being transmitted to a first receiver and a second program transmitted to a second receiver; and
if the time difference is below a predetermined time difference, reducing the time difference between said programs.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein transmitting programs to two different receivers involves distributing programs over a wireless network.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein transmitting programs includes distributing programs over a cable network.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 1 including transmitting programs to two different receivers in response to two different requests for programs.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 4 including transmitting programs in an on demand basis.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 including determining whether the time difference between a first program and a second program is above a predetermined time difference.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 including determining whether the time difference between the first program and the second program is sufficient to attempt to reduce the time difference between the programs.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein reducing the time difference between said programs includes time compressing one of said programs more than the other and transmitting said programs.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein reducing the time difference between said programs includes reducing the rate of data transfer of one of said programs.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein reducing the time difference between said programs includes increasing the rate of content transmission of the first program and decreasing the rate of content transmission of the second program until the time difference between said programs is substantially zero.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 including reducing the time difference between said programs until the time difference is substantially zero and then transmitting the first and second programs over the same channel to two different receivers.

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Cont. 12. (Original) The method of claim 11 including initially transmitting the first and second programs on different channels, reducing the time difference between said programs on different channels until the time difference is substantially zero, transmitting both programs on a first channel to two different receivers and freeing a second channel for transmission of another program.

13. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a medium storing instructions that, if executed, enable a processor-based system to:
transmit programs to two different receivers;
determine the time difference between a first program being transmitted to a first receiver and a second program being transmitted to a second receiver; and
if the time difference is below a threshold, reduce the time difference between the programs.

14. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to distribute programs over a wireless network.

15. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to distribute programs over a cable network.

16. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to transmit programs to two different receivers in response to two different requests for programs.

17. (Original) The article of claim 16 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to transmit programs on an on-demand basis.

18. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to determine whether the time difference between a first program and a second program is above a predetermined time difference.

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19. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to determine whether the time difference between the first program and the second program is sufficient to attempt to reduce the time difference between the programs.

20. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to time compress one of said programs more than the other and transmit said programs.

21. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to reduce the rate of data transfer of one of said programs to reduce the time difference between said programs.

22. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to increase the rate of content transmission of the first program and decrease the rate of content transmission of the second program until the time difference between said programs is substantially zero.

23. (Original) The article of claim 13 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to reduce the time difference between the programs until the time difference is substantially zero and then transmit the first and second programs over the same channel to two different receivers.

24. (Original) The article of claim 23 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to initially transmit the first and second programs on different channels, reduce the time difference between the programs on different channels until the time difference is substantially zero, transmit both programs on a first channel to two different receivers and free a second channel for transmission of another program.

A' Cont.
25. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a server;
a transmission device coupled to said server;
a database of electronic files;
a storage storing instructions that enable the server to transmit files to two different receivers over said transmission device, determine the time difference between a first file being transmitted to a first receiver and a second file being transmitted to a second receiver and if the time difference is below a threshold, reduce the time difference between the files.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein said transmission device transmits files over a wireless network.

27. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein said transmission device is a cable network transmission device.

28. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein said storage stores instructions that enable the server to determine whether the time difference between a first and second file is above a predetermined time difference.

29. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein said storage stores instructions that enable the server to determine whether the time difference between a first file and a second file is sufficient to attempt to reduce the time difference between the files.

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30. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein said storage stores instructions that enable the server to reduce the rate of content transfer of one of said files to reduce the time difference between said files.
